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Mexico

FAIRS Product Specific

Final Phytosanitary Standard to Prevent Ergot in Sorghum Seed Published (NOM-078-FITO-2000)

2000

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Report Highlights:

On June 9, 2000, the Mexican Agriculture Secretariat (SAGAR) published the Final Standard NOM-078-FITO-2000 which is designed to prevent and avoid the spread of sorghum ergot. This final version of the standard allows 5 ergot esclorisis per kg whereas the proposal as initially written only allowed 1/kg.

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Mexico [MX1], MX

Introduction: This report summarizes a Final Standard (NOM-078-FITO-2000) published in Mexico's "*Diario Oficial*" (Federal Register) on June 9, 2000.

Disclaimer: This summary is based on a *cursory* review of the subject announcement and therefore should not, under any circumstances, be viewed as a definitive reading of the regulation in question, or of its implications for U.S. agricultural export trade interests. In the event of a discrepancy or discrepancies between this summary and the complete regulation or announcement as published in Spanish, the latter shall prevail.

FAS/Mexico's Executive Summary: Mexico's Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock and Rural Development (SAGAR) published the final standard NOM-078-FITO-2000. This final rule changes Mexico's phytosanitary standard to control the spread of ergot (*African Claviceps*) in sorghum. The following measures are likely to be of particular note and interest to U.S. trade:

- 1) The final standard allows five esclorisis of sorghum per kg whereas the draft only allowed 1/kg (point 4.2.2. "The Phytosanitary certification of the sorghum seed"). Comment: FGIS already certifies Mexico a maximum total ergot content of no more than this tolerance.
- 2) This final standard eliminates references to imported seed that existed in the proposed rule.
- 3) The final rule indicates the specie *African Claviceps* instead of *Claviceps spp*, previously included in the draft standard.
- 4) The definition of "Certification bodies" (point 3.9) has been changed as follow: "Certification bodies: The entities whose purpose is to carry out certification functions."
- 5) Similarly, the definition of Verification units (point 3.13) has been changed as follow: "Verification units: individual or entities approved by the Secretary (SAGAR) and accredited by the entity of corresponding accreditation to offer, at the request of part, services of verification of official rules and to issue phytosanitary certificates."

Background:

Date	Action	FAS Rpt#
4/7/1997	Issued Emergency Declaration. Effective for 90 days. Covered sorghum grain and seed.	n/a
7/20/1998	First published as an emergency rule (NOM-EM-030-1998). Covered only sorghum seed. In effect for six-months.	MX8079
2/10/1999	Extended emergency rule until 8/11/1999	MX9021

5/7/1999	Proposal for NOM-078-FITO-1999	MX9061
4/18/2000	Published responses to comments. None submitted by U.S. interests.	n/a

Title: Mexican Official Standard, NOM-078-FITO-2000, Phytosanitary Regulation to Prevent and Avoid the Spread of Sorghum Ergot.

Type of Regulation: Final

Important Dates

1. **Publication Date:** June 9, 2000
2. **Effective Date:** June 10, 2000
2. **Start of Public Comment Period:** None -- Final Rule.
3. **End of Public Comment Period:** None -- Final Rule.

Products Affected: Sorghum seed to be used for sowing.

Agency in Charge: Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock and Rural Development (SAGAR)

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Internet Connections

FAS Mexico Web Site: We are available at <http://www.atomexico.gob.mx> or visit our headquarter's home page at <http://www.fas.usda.gov> for a complete selection of FAS' worldwide agricultural reporting.

Useful Mexican Web Sites: Mexico's equivalent of the Department of Agriculture (SAGAR) can be found at www.sagar.gob.mx and Mexico's equivalent of the Department of Commerce (SECOFI) can be found at www.secofi.gob.mx These web sites are mentioned for the readers' convenience but USDA does NOT in any way endorse, guarantee the accuracy of, or necessarily concur with the information contained on the mentioned sites.